

CITY OF WELLSURBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1947.

To the Urban District Sanitary Authority of the City of Wells.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the City during 1947.

GENERAL

The area of the City is 1301.150 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year resident population of Wells in 1947 was 5,750. (5,696).

The number of inhabited houses in the City at the end of 1947 was 1,682. (1,617).

The Rateable value at the end of 1947 was £45,346. (£43,013).

The sum represented by a penny rate at the end of 1947 was estimated at £177.10.0. (£170.14.7).

BIRTH RATE.

The total live births in the City in 1947 was 111 (99) as follows:--

Legitimate:	109 (90)	Males 53 (53)	Females: 56 (37).
Illegitimate:	2 (9)	Males 1 (2)	Females: 1 (7).

The birth rate per thousand of the population was 19.3 (18.2).

There were three still births during the year, one of which was illegitimate.

(N.B. The figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1946).

INFANT MORTALITY.

There were two deaths in the City of infants under one year. Both legitimate.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

There were fewer notifiable diseases reported during 1947 than in any year since I have been Medical Officer.

There were four cases of scarlet fever, one of which went to the Isolation Hospital. Four cases of measles and two cases of pneumonia.

There were no deaths from epidemic diseases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

At the beginning of the year the number of cases on my register was 31 as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
12	14	2	3	14	17

During the year four cases of pulmonary and three cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

During the year 9 cases were removed from my register as follows:-

Left the district:	3
Died:	1
Cured:	5

So that at the end of the year the number of cases on my register was as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Total.</u>	
<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
12	10	4	3	16	13

DEATH RATE.

There were 70 (60) deaths in the City during 1947, 39 males and 31 females.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other Puerperal causes.

There were 9 (4) deaths from Cancer and 21 (20) from Heart Disease.

The death rate per thousand of the population was 12.1 (10.7).

BUG INFESTATION.

No cases were notified during the year.

SCABIES

No cases were notified which could not be treated at home.

The incidence of scabies in 1947 was slight.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year chlorination has been continued both at the Spring Head and the Deep Well. At present a sufficient and wholesome supply is available throughout the City.

Water main extensions have been carried out on the new housing schemes.

A scheme has been prepared for the provision of an additional borehole and pumping plant and the relevant details have been forwarded to the Ministry for their determination.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The reconstruction works are in abeyance until such time as financial stringency is abated.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR.

(1) By Local Authority.

With state assistance.	{ (a) Rehousing under Housing Act 1936.	NIL
	{ (b) Overcrowding.	NIL
	{ (c) Other.	36

Without state assistance.

(2) By other bodies or persons.

{ (a) With state assistance.	NIL
{ (b) Without state assistance.	NIL

HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

(1) 1. (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	287
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	428.
2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	268
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose.	268.
	(c) Number of houses in which no action was found necessary.	71.
3. (a)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	120.
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	350.
(11) (a)	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	270.
	(b) Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action.	NIL

(111) Action under Statutory Powers during this year:

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936. NIL

Proceedings under Public Health Acts. NIL



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Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts. NIL.

(IV) Housing Act 1936 - Overcrowding.

The overcrowding situation in the City is not serious, but there were isolated cases which will receive attention when alternative accommodation is available.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION.

The house refuse collection in the City is carried out daily by means of a Dennis Refuse Vehicle. A separate weekly salvage collection is also made from house to house.

HOUSING.

New Houses.

1. The total number of applications for Council houses at the end of the year:- 340.

2. Houses erected by:	Type.	No.	Av.cost per house.	Av.rent excl. or incl. of rates.	If subsidised Subsidy per yr. of L.A. Govt.	Period of subsidy.
(a) L.A.	3 bed-room type.	14	£1100	13/-	£5.10.0. £16.10.0.	60 yrs.
(b) L.A.	Conversion of P.O.W. Camp.	22		10/6		

3. Houses in course of erection.	Type	No.	Av.cost per house.	Av.rent excl. or incl. of rates.	If subsidised subsidy per yr. of L.A. Govt.	Period of subsidy.
(a) L.A.	3 bed-room type.	42	£1100	13/-	£5.10.0. £16.10.0.	60 yrs.
(b) Private enterprise.		2	£1300			

4. Programme of new houses proposed to be erected by Local Authority:-

(a) 1948-9 26 1949-50 -- 1950-1 --

Any observations:-

Future programme dependent on Ministry of Health sanction, the Council has approved a layout of Burcott Road for approximately 160 houses. Of this sanction has so far been received for 16 included above.

MILK SUPPLY.

(a) Total number of Registered Dairy farms	7
(b) Total number of Retailers	7

(c) Number of Producer-Retailers included in (b).....	<u>2</u>
(d) Number of Licensed pasteurising plants.....	<u>NIL</u>
(e) Number of Heat-treatment plants not included in (d).	<u>1</u>

MEAT SUPERVISION.

(a) Number of Licensed Slaughter Houses in District.....	<u>4</u>
(b) Number of Registered Slaughter Houses in District...	<u>5</u>
(c) Names of any in use under Ministry of Food.....	<u>NIL</u>

RIVER POLLUTION.

Any cases dealt with during the year.	<u>NIL</u>
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KNACKERS YARDS.

Number registered in district.	<u>NIL</u>
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.....*July 9*.....1948.

.....*C. C. Hincher*.....

Medical Officer of Health.

